

Message Text

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15

ACTION NEA-12

INFO OCT-01 EUR-25 ADP-00 SSC-01 CIAE-00 DODE-00 NSAE-00

NSCE-00 SSO-00 USIE-00 INRE-00 PM-07 H-03 INR-10 L-03

NSC-10 PA-03 RSC-01 PRS-01 SS-15 AID-20 RSR-01 EB-11

OMB-01 /125 W

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O R 030340Z JUL 73

FM AMEMBASSY KABUL

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 4530

INFO AMEMBASSY ISLAMABAD

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

AMEMBASSY NEW DELHI

AMEMBASSY TEHRAN

CINCPAC FOR POLAD

C O N F I D E N T I A L KABUL 5777

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PGOV, AF

SUBJECT: NEW CABINET ANNOUNCED BY REPUBLIC OF AFGHANISTAN

1. AUGUST 1 RADIO AFGHANISTAN ANNOUNCED MAKEUP OF NEW CABINET. MOHAMMAD DAUD WILL CONTINUE AS PRESIDENT, PRIME MINISTER, MINISTER OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF DEFENSE. THERE FOLLOWS LISTING OF OTHER APPOINTMENTS WITH BRIEF INITIAL SKETCH FROM CURRENTLY AVAILABLE BIOGRAPHIC INFORMATION. MORE DETAILED DATA AND ASSESSMENT WILL FOLLOW. INFORMATION GIVEN HERE IS SUBJECT TO CONFIRMATION.

2. DEPUTY PRIME MINISTER - DR. MOHAMMAD HASSAN SHARQ

PHYSICIAN, CONFIDANT OF DAUD AND PREVIOUSLY PRIVATE SECRETARY TO THE PRESIDENT DURING HIS TERM AS PRIME MINISTER. IS KNOWN FOR HIS UNQUESTIONING LOYALTY TO DAUD AND TOTAL LACK OF ORIGINAL THINKING.

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3. MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE AND IRRIGATION- GHULAM JAILANI BAKHTARI

BORN 6/15/31, MASTERS DEGREE PUBLIC ADMINISTRATION IN THE UNITED STATES, 1963. USAID PARTICIPANT 1964 IN MANAGEMENT SEMINAR. HAS HELD SEVERAL OFFICES IN MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE, LAST POST WAS PRESIDENT OF STATISTICS IN MINISTRY OF INTERIOR. IS REPORTED TO HAVE BEEN REMOVED FROM OFFICE IN HAVA (HELMAND ARGHANDAB VALLEY AUTHORITY) FOR EITHER CORRUPTION AND/OR BEING TOO LEFTIST.

4. MINISTER OF JUSTICE - DR. ABDUL MAJID

A TAJIK, BORN 1915. US EDUCATED, PHD IN BACTERIOLOGY AT BERKELEY. FORMER MINISTER OF PUBLIC HEALTH AND EDUCATION. WAS FIRST RECTOR OF KABUL UNIVERSITY IN 1947. AMBASSADOR TO JAPAN 1956-63, UNITED STATES, 1963-67 AND UNITED KINGDOM. SPEAKS EXCELLENT ENGLISH AND IS CONSIDERED TO BE PRO-US. INTELLIGENT BUT NOT RPT NOT INNOVATIVE.

5. MINISTER OF FINANCE - SAYEED ABDOLELAH

ABOUT 27 YEARS OLD AND REPORTED TO BE MEMBER OF CENTRAL COMMITTEE. HAS BA DEGREE LAW OR ECONOMICS FROM KABUL UNIVERSITY, WORKED IN MINISTRY OF INTERIOR FOR ONE YEAR. LAST JOB WAS AS DIRECTOR OF FOREIGN EXCHANGE, DEPARTMENT OF PASHTANY TUJERATY BANK. (N.B. FOREIGN EXCHANGE DEPARTMENT OF P.T. BANK CONSIDERED TO BE VERY POORLY RUN AND SOURCE OF FOREIGN EXCHANGE LOSSES TO COUNTRY.) FATHER WAS MINISTER OF INTERIOR IN PREVIOUS DAUD REGIME.

6. MINISTER OF INTERIOR - FAIZ MOHAMMAD - LT OR CAPT

IDENTIFICATION AS YET UNCERTAIN. HE IS SAID TO BE ONE OF YOUNGER MEMBERS OF CENTRAL COMMITTEE.

7. MINISTER OF EDUCATION - NEYAMATULLAH PAZHWAQ

MINISTER OF INTERIOR IN SHAFIQ GOVERNMENT AND FORMER GOVERNOR OF KABUL AND BAMIAN PROVINCES. MASTERS AND DOCTORATE FROM TEACHERS COLLEGE COLUMBIA UNIVERSITY 1959 AND 1965 AND HELD CONFIDENTIAL

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NUMBER HIGH POSITIONS MIN EDUCATION. ALSO SERVED AS CULTURAL ATTACHE AFGHAN EMBASSY MOSCOW 1968 RESPONSIBLE FOR AFGHAN STUDENT AFFAIRS. REPORTEDLY CLOSE FRIEND BAKHTARI (ABOVE) AND BABRAK LEADER LEFTIST PARCHAM PARTY IN LAST PARLIAMENT. VERY HIGHLY REGARDED BY USDIA EDUCATION DIVISION AND BY MINED PERSONNEL.

8. MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND CULTURE - PROFESSOR DR. ABDUL RAHIM

NAWIN

A TAJIK AND PHYSICIAN. FORMER DEAN OF MEDICAL FACULTY AND VICE PRESIDENT FOR ACADEMIC AFFAIRS AT KABUL UNIVERSITY, POSSIBLY GERMAN TRAINED. WAS PUBLISHER AND OWNER OF WEEKLY SATIRICAL NEWSPAPER TURJOMAN.

9. MINISTER OF MINES AND INDUSTRIES - DR. ABDUL QAYUM WARDAK

GERMAN EDUCATED MINING ENGINEER AND FORMER DEAN OF FACULTY OF SCIENCE KABUL UNIVERSITY, CLOSE FRIEND OF DAUD FROM EARLY DAYS OF UNIVERSITY. MARRIED TO MASOUMA WARDAK WHO WAS AN ELECTED SENATOR IN LAST PARLIAMENT AND ACTIVE MEMBER WOMEN'S INSTITUTE.

10. MINISTER OF PUBLIC WORKS - GHASUDIN - LT OR CAPT

POSITIVE IDENTIFICATION AS OF YET UNESTABLISHED.

11. MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS - ENGINEER ABDUL HAMID - LT OR CAPT

POSITIVE IDENTIFICATION AS OF YET UNESTABLISHED.

12. MINISTER OF PUBLIC HEALTH - PROF DR. NASERMOHAMMED SEKANDER

A TAJIK. SIXTY-FIVE YEAR OLD HEART SPECIALIST WHO IS REPORTED TO BE VERY ILL AT PRESENT. NO ADMINISTRATIVE EXPERIENCE.

13. BORDER AFFAIRS - (TRIBAL AFFAIRS) PACHA GUL - LT OR CAPT

REPORTED TO BE A MEMBER OF THE CENTRAL COMMITTEE. NO OTHER INFORMATION IMMEDIATELY AVAILABLE.

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14. ACCORDING TO THE RADIO ANNOUNCEMENT, "COMMERCE AND OTHER MINISTRIES" WILL BE ANNOUNCED LATER. PLANNING WILL BE UNDER CLOSE SUPERVISION OF PRES. DAUD AND MAY EVEN DISAPPEAR AS A SEPARATE MINISTRY.

15. IT HAS ALSO BEEN REPORTED THAT THE REPUBLIC GOVERNMENT HAS RECALLED ALL AFGHAN AMBASSADORS TO RETURN TO KABUL. WE ARE ATTEMPTING TO VERIFY. COMMENT: THIS GOVERNMENT IS A PECULIAR HEDGEPODGE AND OUR INITIAL ASSESSMENT IS THAT IT MAY BE NEITHER VERY EFFECTIVE NOR CAPABLE OF ACTING IN UNION. THIS MAY GIVE DAUD ADDITIONAL POWER AS AN ARBITER. IT MAY ALSO FAIL. IT IS LIKELY THAT IT REPRESENTS A COMPROMISE BETWEEN DAUD AND THE CENTRAL COMMITTEE, BUT A COMPROMISE WHICH FAVORS DAUD. THE YOUNG OFFICERS CONTROL THREE MINISTRIES, INTERIOR, PUBLIC WORKS AND TRIBAL (BORDER) AFFAIRS, OF WHICH ONLY INTERIOR IS

IMPORTANT FOR THE CONTROL OF THE COUNTRY. IN THE RECENT COUP, HOWEVER, IT BECAME CLEAR THAT THE POLICE (INTERIOR) ARE NO MATCH FOR THE ARMY (DEFENSE). POSSIBLY THE MINISTERS OF COMMUNICATIONS AND FINANCE SHOULD BE ADDED TO THE CENTRAL COMMITTEE SLATE BUT THE CHANCES OF A YOUNG, INEXPERIENCED MAN LASTING IN THE BRUISINGLY COMPETITIVE ATMOSPHERE OF THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE IS DOUBTFUL. PERHAPS THAT IS WHY HE IS THERE.

PLANNING, IT WAS REITERATED TO AMBASSADOR, WILL REMAIN SOLIDLY UNDER DAUD'S CONTROL AND THIS IS LIKELY WHERE THE ECONOMIC MUSCLE WILL BE.
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